

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (original): Hinge-lid pack for cigarettes (10) comprising a box part (11) with box front wall (14), box rear wall (16), box side walls (22) and base wall (15), and a lid (12) which is pivotably attached to the box part (11) and which comprises lid front wall (19), lid rear wall (17), lid side walls (23) and end wall (18), **characterized in that** a region facing at least one of the side walls (23) is configured as having a cross-section that is trapezoid in shape, with converging material strips or legs (28, 29, 30, 31) connected respectively to the box front wall (14) and box rear wall (16) and to the lid front wall (19) and lid rear wall (17), said material strips having a width that is greater than the diameter of one cigarette (10) and less than the aggregate diameter of two adjacent cigarettes (10).

2. (original): Hinge-lid pack according to Claim 1, **characterized in that** the material strips or legs (28, 29; 30, 31) are directed at an angle (39) of approximately 30° to the box front wall (14) and box rear wall (16), and to the lid rear wall (17) and lid front wall (19), respectively, and are directed at an angle (40) of approximately 60° to the transverse box side wall (22) and lid side wall (23)

3. (currently amended): Hinge-lid pack according to Claim 1-~~or 2~~, **characterized in that** a cigarette group (34), as the pack's contents, comprises in its marginal region – in the region of the trapezoid-shaped cross section – a marginal transverse row (35) with two adjacent cigarettes

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(10) and a transverse row (36) arranged adjacent thereto with three adjacent cigarettes (10), with the cigarettes (10) of the transverse row (35) preferably assuming a saddle position with respect to the cigarettes (10) of the transverse row (36).

4. (currently amended): Hinge-lid pack according to Claim 1 or one of the further Claims, 3, characterized in that cigarettes (10) of the cigarette group (34) are respectively positioned in the region of angulations (37, 38) between the material strips or legs (28, 29; 30, 31) on one hand, and the front side or rear side, on the other hand, and the side wall (22, 23,) on the third hand, in particular marginal cigarettes (10) of the transverse row (36) on one hand, and the cigarettes (10) of the transverse row (35), on the other hand.

5. (currently amended): Hinge-lid pack according to Claim 1 or one of the further claims, 3, characterized in that the width of the side walls (22, 23) comprised of two overlapping side tabs (24, 25; 26, 27) is somewhat less than the dimensions of two adjacent cigarettes (10), in particular of the marginal transverse row (35).

6. (currently amended): Hinge-lid pack according to Claim 1 or one of the further Claims, 4, characterized in that the angulations (37) and/or the angulations (38) are each formed as rounded corners, namely with a preferably circular-shaped rounding formed by curvature strips (45), specifically by conforming to the contour and dimension of the cigarettes (10) lying opposite the angulations (37, 38).

7. (currently amended): Hinge-lid pack according to Claim 6 or one of the further Claims, characterized in that the angulations (37) bordering the side walls (22, 23) are rounded or

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configured as rounded corners and that the angulations (38) between the legs (28, 29; 30, 31), one hand, and the front side and rear side, on the other hand, have an angular configuration.

8. (currently amended): Hinge-lid pack according to Claim 6-~~or one of the further Claims~~, characterized in that, in the case of rounded angulations (38), the side tabs (24, 25; 26, 27) extend exclusively in the region between the adjacent, rounded angulations (38) and overlap one another.

9. (currently amended): Hinge-lid pack according to Claim 1-~~or one of the further Claims~~, characterized in that base corner tabs (46) and lid corner tabs (47) are arranged as the continuation of interior box side tabs (25) and lid side tabs (27), respectively, with the corner tabs (46, 47) being adapted to the contour of the base wall (15) and end wall (18) by means of corresponding exposed tab edges, or corresponding in their transverse dimensions to the width of their assigned side tabs (25, 27).

10. (currently amended): Hinge-lid pack according to Claim 1-~~or one of the further Claims~~, characterized in that a collar (13), preferably made from a separate blank, conforms to the contour or cross-sectional profile in the region of the legs (28, 29; 30, 31) and has marginal extensions, in particular a collar leg (53), which abuts the rear box legs (29) and lid legs (31).